

**Clinton-Essex-Warren-Washington
Health Insurance Consortium**

P.O. Box 455
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

DATE: August 5, 2020
KIND OF MEETING: Board of Directors Meeting
PLACE: Remote Via Webex Event

Board Members Present:

Mark Davey
Cynthia Ford-Johnston
Justin Gardner
Stephen Gratto (late)
James Knight, Jr.
Jay Lebrun
Phil Lupe
Daniel Mannix
Daniel Mayberry
Kim Mayer
Joshua Meyer
Scott Osborne
Javier Perez
Emy Pombrio
Paul Savage

Board Members Absent:

Shari Brannock
Robb Garrand
William Larrow
Thomas Palmer
Bob Porter

Chairperson:

Jay Lebrun

Recording Secretary:

Jessie Moulton

Others Present:

Eric Bell
Vanessa Flynn
Brian Gilligan
Kevin Klemm
Christine Myers
Jon Parks
Larry Singer

MEETING
TO ORDER

Chairperson Lebrun called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC
COMMENT
SESSION

No comments.

MINUTES OF
PREVIOUS
MEETING

Dr. Davey moved, seconded by Mr. Osborne, to adopt the minutes of the June 4, 2020 meeting as amended, to add the four (4) labor representatives who were present at that meeting. All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

FINANCIAL
REPORT

Mr. Lebrun turned the meeting over to Eric Bell to give a financial update.

Eric advised the Board that the audit is scheduled for the last week of August. The 2019-2020 results should be ready for the September 2020 Board of Directors meeting. He gave an overview of the unaudited information, stating that:

- 1) Total revenue was slightly lower than projected due to some migration from Plan 1 to Plan 2,
- 2) Rebates were above budget, and;
- 3) Expenses were under budget.

Dr. Davey mentioned his concern with the large swing from last year to this year in unrestricted net assets. Eric gave a few reasons for the difference:

- 1) Extra rebates,
- 2) An increase in net income had been purposely budgeted, and;
- 3) Claims were well below budget.

Jon Parks explained that claims are lower but cautioned that it is difficult to forecast a projection in these unique times. He feels at some point the claims will come back closer to where we have projected. Larry Singer stated that part of the explanation is due to our PBM arrangement, in that we are receiving more rebates, and less claims. Segal will be doing research for the medical side to see if the impact is COVID-related.

There was a short discussion regarding Articles 44 and 47. Larry Singer stated that the Plan is now in a good position to look at alternatives without worrying about funding.

BENEFITS
COORDINATION
OFFICE

Eric Bell explained that Jon Parks will be leaving his position as administrator. Eric stated that Mr. Parks has done an excellent job, and that he has agreed to assist in the transition over the next few months while we look for a long-term replacement. The position will be a Benefits Director, and this person will be an employee of Champlain Valley Educational Services.

A small sub-committee of the Board of Directors will be formed for the interviews of the Benefits Director. If any Board Members are interested in sitting on the sub-committee, please send an email to Eric Bell, and copy Recording Secretary, Jessie Moulton. Interviews are planned at this time for August 26th, from 12:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Eric asked that everyone share the recruitment materials. Qualifications for the position were discussed. Ms. Pombrio expressed that she felt that “interaction with members” should be added to the job description, if that was applicable. Mr. Parks explained that typically the Benefits Specialists will be handling the day-to-day concerns from members. Mr. Mannix asked about the salary range. Eric stated a minimum of \$80,000, and possibly an increase based on experience.

LATE PAYMENT
FEE WAIVER
REQUESTS FROM
KEENE CENTRAL
SCHOOL
DISTRICT AND
NORTHERN
ADIRONDACK
CENTRAL
SCHOOL
DISTRICT

Mr. Savage moved, seconded by Mr. Mannix, to address the late payment fee waiver request from Keene CSD.

Mr. Osborne moved, seconded by Mr. Perez, to address the late payment fee waiver request from Northern Adirondack CSD.

Both Mr. Mayberry and Mr. Knight explained the circumstances that contributed to the July 2020 health insurance payments being received by CEWW BOCES after the due date.

Discussion followed, including concerns about setting a precedent, and about how the penalty is calculated.

With respect to the late payment fee waiver request from Keene CSD, all Board

Members present voted yes, with the exception of Mr. Mayberry, who abstained – motion carried.

With respect to the late payment fee waiver request from Northern Adirondack CSD, all Board Members present voted yes, with the exception of Mr. Knight, who abstained – motion carried.

PHYSICAL
THERAPY/CHIRO-
PRACTIC CARE
UTILIZATION
MANAGEMENT
DISCUSSION

Jon Parks explained that the management of services is different with Empire BlueCross than it was with Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. The management of standard services of physical therapy and chiropractic seem to work well, but there is no mechanism for unique cases. Mr. Parks has asked Segal to look at options, and Segal provided a report to Mr. Parks via email yesterday. Mr. Parks shared the report on his screen and reviewed it.

There was discussion, which included:

- 1) Prior authorization and number of visits allowed
- 2) Concern that we may lose some in-network providers due to paperwork being so time-consuming
- 3) Peer-to-peer reviews
- 4) Unique cases may require more advocacy
- 5) Clarification that there is no change in the benefit, but only in how the benefit is managed
- 6) Suggestion that we get more input from providers
- 7) Direct Advisory Committee to investigate further and advise the BOD if any changes to prior authorization are warranted

PUBLIC
COMMENT
SESSION

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mayberry moved, seconded by Mr. Savage, to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 a.m. All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

Jessie Moulton, Recording Secretary